

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for automatically publishing content, the method comprising:

receiving a selection of content from a user through a user computer system;

receiving a request from the user through the user computer system to publish the selected content ~~from the user~~ to at least one distributor computer system; and

receiving a user profile;

~~supplying~~ generating metadata and a rights specification for the content to the at least one a distributor computer system in response to the request from the user to publish the content, said metadata being based on the user profile; and

storing the content on one or more repositories.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the metadata includes data describing and identifying the content.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the metadata includes at least one of a content identifier, a title, an author's name, a publisher's name, a publication date, an image and a description of the content.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the content identifier is at least one of an International Standard Book Number (ISBN), a Digital Object Identifier (DOI), a Uniform Resource Identifier (URI), and a Library of Congress Control Number (LCCN).

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the rights specification includes at least one of the rights to print, view, play, extract, and export.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6 1, wherein the step of generating the metadata comprises receiving information from the user.

8. (Cancelled)
9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6 1, wherein the step of generating the metadata is based upon default metadata.
10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6 1, wherein the step of generating the metadata is based upon at least one inference rule.
11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6 1, wherein the step of generating the metadata is based upon an analysis of the selected content.
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~12~~ 1, wherein the rights specification is created based upon a rights template.
14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the rights template includes at least one usage right and a condition upon which the usage right is contingent.
15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~12~~ 1, wherein the rights specification is ~~created~~ generated based upon a user profile.
16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~12~~ 1, wherein the rights specification is ~~created~~ generated based upon a default rights specification.
17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~12~~ 1, wherein the rights specification is ~~created~~ generated based upon inference rules.
18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~12~~ 1, wherein the step of ~~creating~~ generating the rights specification is based upon an analysis of the selected content.

19. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising creating a publishing profile.
20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the publishing profile includes at least one publisher identifier and information relating to a pre-existing agreement between at least one of a publisher, a distributor and a registrar.
21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the publishing profile includes information regarding at least one of a distributor computer system and facilitator through which a certain type of content may be at least one of distributed, archived and registered.
22. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the publishing profile is created based upon a user profile.
23. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein the publishing profile is created based upon a default publishing profile.
24. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the publishing profile is created based upon at least one inference rule.
25. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the publishing profile is created based upon an analysis of the selected content.
26. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising confirming the request to publish.
27. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the user is a publisher.
28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 27, wherein the step of ~~supplying~~ generating comprises sending a publication notice to at least one distributor computer system.

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 28, wherein the step of ~~supplying~~ generating further comprises receiving a response from the at least one distributor computer system.
30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, further comprising packaging the content for the distributor computer system if the response from the at least one distributor computer system indicates that the distributor computer system wants to distribute the content.
31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the user is the distributor computer system.
32. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the user is a content creator.
33. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising packaging the content.
34. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 33, wherein the step of packaging comprises sending the content to a distributor computer system.
35. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein the step of packaging comprises storing the content to at least one of a storage and a distribution media.
36. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein the step of packaging comprises encrypting the content.
37. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein the step of packaging comprises sending the content to a content repository.
38. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising registering the content.

39. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein the step of registering comprises forwarding at least one of metadata, a record of published content, a content identifier, the rights specification and marketing information to a registrar.

40. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising registering the transaction of ~~supplying~~ generating.

41. (Original) The method of claim 40, wherein the step of registering the transaction comprises storing transaction information in a transaction database.

42. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of ~~supplying~~ generating comprises:

preparing a notice that includes the metadata and rights specification; and  
sending the notice to the distributor computer system.

43. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising using at least one distributor business rule to determine whether the distributor computer system wants to distribute the selected content and wherein the ~~supplying~~ generating is based upon the determination.

44. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving a response from the distributor computer system and wherein the ~~supplying~~ generating is based upon the response.

45. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising updating a distributor computer system catalog based upon the metadata and rights specification.

46. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising modifying one of the metadata and rights specification based upon a distributor business rule.

47. (Currently Amended) A system for publishing content, the system comprising:  
a content database storing at least one content; and  
a processor in communication with the content database and responsive to a request from a user through a user computer system to publish the content via a user interface to ~~supply~~ generate metadata and a rights specification regarding the content to at least one distributor computer system, said metadata being based on a user profile.
48. (Original) The system of claim 47, further comprising a metadata database storing the metadata.
49. (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein the metadata includes data describing and identifying the content.
50. (Original) The system of claim 49, wherein the metadata includes at least one of a content identifier, a title, an author's name, a publisher's name, a publication date, an image and a description of the content.
51. (Original) The system of claim 50, wherein the content identifier is at least one of an International Standard Book Number (ISBN), a Digital Object Identifier (DOI), a Uniform Resource Identifier (URI), and a Library of Congress Control Number (LCCN).
52. (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein the processor is further responsive to the request to generate the metadata based upon default metadata.
53. (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein the processor is further responsive to the request to generate the metadata based upon inference rules.
54. (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein the processor is further responsive to the request to generate the metadata based upon an analysis of the content.

55. (Original) The system of claim 47, further comprising a user database storing at least one user profile.

56. (Original) The system of claim 55, wherein the processor is further responsive to the request to generate the metadata based upon the at least one user profile.

57. (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein the rights specification includes at least one of the rights to print, view, play, extract and export.

58. (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein the processor is further responsive to the request to generate the rights specification.

59. (Original) The system of claim 58, wherein the processor generates the rights specification based upon a default rights specification.

60. (Original) The system of claim 58, wherein the processor generates the rights specification based upon a user input.

61. (Original) The system of claim 58, wherein the processor generates the rights specification based upon inference rules.

62. (Original) The system of claim 58, wherein the processor generates the rights specification by analyzing the content.

63. (Original) The system of claim 58, further comprising a rights template database storing at least one rights template.

64. (Original) The system of claim 63, wherein the at least one rights template includes at least one usage right and a condition upon which the usage right is contingent.

65. (Original) The system of claim 63, wherein the processor generates the rights specification based upon the at least one rights template
66. (Original) The system of claim 47, further comprising a user database storing at least one user profile.
67. (Original) The system of claim 66, wherein the processor is further responsive to the request to generate the rights specification based upon the at least one user profile.
68. (Original) The system of claim 47, further comprising a publishing profile database storing at least one publishing profile.
69. (Original) The system of claim 68, wherein the publishing profile includes at least one publisher identifier and information relating to a pre-existing agreement between at least one of a publisher, a distributor and a registrar.
70. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 68, wherein the publishing profile includes information regarding at least one of a distributor computer system and facilitator through which a certain type of content may be at least one of distributed, archived and registered.
71. (Original) The system of claim 68, further comprising a user database storing at least one user profile, and wherein the processor is responsive to the request to select the at least one publishing profile based upon the at least one user profile.
72. (Original) The system of claim 68, wherein the processor is further responsive to the request to generate the rights specification based upon the at least one publishing profile.
73. (Original) The system of claim 68, wherein the processor is further responsive to the request to generate the metadata based upon the at least one publishing profile.



74. (Original) The system of claim 47, further comprising a publishing profile database and wherein the processor is responsive to the request to generate a publishing profile based upon a default publishing profile and to store the generated publishing profile in the publishing profile database.

75. (Original) The system of claim 47, further comprising a publishing profile database and wherein the processor is responsive to the request to generate a publishing profile based upon at least one inference rule and to store the generated publishing profile in the publishing profile database.

76. (Original) The system of claim 47, further comprising a publishing profile database and wherein the processor is responsive to the request to generate a publishing profile based upon an analysis of the content and to store the generated publishing profile in the publishing profile database.

77. (Original) The system of claim 47, further comprising a transaction database and wherein the processor is further responsive to the request to store transaction data in the transaction database.

78. (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein the processor is further responsive to user input to create the content.

79. (Original) The system of claim 78, wherein the processor is further responsive to store the content in the content database.

80. (Original) The system of claim 78, wherein the processor is further responsive to store the content in a distribution media.

81. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 47, further comprising a content repository and wherein the processor is further responsive to the request to ~~supply~~ generate the content to the content repository.

82. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 47, further comprising a rights specification database and wherein the processor ~~supplies~~ generates the rights specification to the rights specification database for storage.

83. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 47, wherein the processor is further responsive to the request to ~~supply~~ generate a confirmation request and to receive a confirmation before ~~supplying~~ generating the metadata and rights specification.

84. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 47, wherein the processor is further responsive to the request to ~~supply~~ generate a publication notice to the distributor computer system.

85. (Original) The system of claim 84, wherein the publication notice includes the metadata and rights specification.

86. (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein the processor is further responsive to the request to package the content.

87. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 86, wherein the processor supplies the package to the distributor computer system.

88. (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein the processor is further responsive to the request to encrypt the content.

89. (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein the processor is further responsive to the request to register the content.

90. (Original) The system of claim 89, wherein the registration comprises forwarding at least one of metadata, a record of published content, a content identifier, the rights specification and marketing information to a registrar.

91. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 47, further comprising:  
a distributor system in selective communication with the publishing system, wherein the distributor system comprises:  
a catalog database for storing metadata and rights specifications associated with at least one content;  
an interface for selective communication with a publishing system; and  
a distributor processor in communication with the interface and the catalog database, wherein the processor is responsive to the ~~supplied~~ generated metadata and rights specification to determine whether to store the ~~supplied~~ generated metadata and rights specification in the catalog database.
92. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 91, wherein the distributor processor is further responsive to the ~~supplied~~ generated metadata and rights specification to modify at least one of the metadata and rights specification based upon a business rule.
93. (Currently Amended) A content distributor system comprising:  
a catalog database for storing metadata and rights specifications associated with at least one content;  
an interface for selective communication with a publishing system; and  
a processor in communication with the interface and the catalog database, wherein the processor is responsive to generation of a metadata and a rights specification, said metadata being based on a user profile, from the publishing system to determine whether to store the ~~supplied~~ generated metadata and rights specification in the catalog database.
94. (Original) The system of claim 93, further comprising a business rules database storing at least one business rule, wherein the processor determines whether to store the metadata and rights specification based upon the at least one business rule.
95. (Original) The system of claim 93, wherein the processor is responsive to a positive determination to store the metadata and rights specification in the catalog database.

96. (Original) The system of claim 95, wherein the processor is further responsive to a positive determination to modify the metadata and rights specification based upon the at least one business rule.

97. (Original) The system of claim 93, further comprising:  
a consumer interface in communication with the processor; and  
a consumer database in communication with the processor, wherein the consumer database stores at least one consumer profile.

98. (Original) The system of claim 93, further comprising a transaction database in communication with the processor, wherein the processor is responsive to the metadata and rights specification from the publishing system to store at least one transaction record in the transaction database.

99. (Currently Amended) An information storage media comprising information that automatically publishes content, the information comprising:  
information that receives a selection of content from a user through a user computer system;  
information that receives a request from the user through the user computer system to publish the selected content ~~from the user~~ to at least one distributor computer system; and  
information that receives a user profile  
information that ~~supplies~~ generates metadata and a rights specification for the content to the at least one distributor computer system in response to the request from the user to publish the content, said metadata being based on the user profile; and  
information the stores the content on one or more repositories.

100. (Original) The media of claim 99, wherein the metadata includes data describing and identifying the content.

101. (Original) The media of claim 100, wherein the metadata includes at least one of a content identifier, a title, an author's name, a publisher's name, a publication date, an image and a description of the content.

102. (Original) The media of claim 101, wherein the content identifier is at least one of an International Standard Book Number (ISBN), a Digital Object Identifier (DOI), a Uniform Resource Identifier (URI) and a Library of Congress Control Number (LCCN).

103. (Original) The media of claim 99, wherein the rights specification includes at least one of the rights to print, view, play, extract and export.

104. (Cancelled)

105. (Currently Amended) The media of claim ~~104~~ 99, wherein the information generates the metadata based upon information received from a user.

106. (Cancelled)

107. (Currently Amended) The media of claim ~~104~~ 99, wherein the information generates the metadata based upon default metadata.

108. (Currently Amended) The media of claim ~~104~~ 99, wherein the information generates the metadata based upon at least one inference rule.

109. (Currently Amended) The media of claim ~~104~~ 99, further comprising information: that analyzes the selected content, and wherein the information generates the metadata based upon the results of the analysis.

110. (Cancelled)

111. (Currently Amended) The media of claim ~~110~~ 99, wherein the information that creates the rights specification comprises information that creates the rights specification based upon a rights template.

112. (Original) The method of claim 111, wherein the rights template includes at least one usage right and a condition upon which the usage right is contingent.

113. (Currently Amended) The media of claim ~~110~~ 99, wherein the information that creates the rights specification comprises information that creates the rights specification based upon a user profile.

114. (Currently Amended) The media of claim ~~110~~ 99, wherein the information that creates the rights specification comprises information that creates the rights specification based upon a default rights specification.

115. (Currently Amended) The media of claim ~~110~~ 99, wherein the information that creates the rights specification comprises information that creates the rights specification based upon inference rules.

116. (Original) The media of claim 99, further comprising:  
information that analyzes the selected content; and  
information that creates the rights specification based upon the analysis.

117. (Original) The media of claim 99, further comprising information that creates a publishing profile.

118. (Original) The media of claim 117, wherein the publishing profile includes at least one publisher identifier and information relating to a pre-existing agreement between at least one of a publisher, a distributor and a registrar.

119. (Currently Amended) The media of claim 117, wherein the publishing profile includes information regarding at least one of a distributor computer system and facilitator through which a certain type of content may be at least one of distributed, archived and registered.

120. (Original) The media of claim 99, further comprising information that creates a publishing profile .

121. (Original) The media of claim 120, wherein the information that creates the publishing profile comprises information that creates the publishing profile based upon a user profile.

122. (Original) The media of claim 120, wherein the information that creates the publishing profile comprises information that creates a publishing profile based upon a default publishing profile.

123. (Original) The media of claim 120, wherein the information that creates the publishing profile comprises information that creates a publishing profile based upon at least one inference rule.

124. (Original) The media of claim 99, further comprising:  
information that analyzes the selected content; and  
information that creates a publishing profile based upon the results of the analysis.

125. (Original) The media of claim 99, further comprising information that confirms the request to publish.

126. (Currently Amended) The media of claim 99 wherein the information that supplies generates comprises information that sends a publication notice to at least one distributor computer system.

127. (Currently Amended) The media of claim 126, further comprising information that receives a response to the notice from the at least one distributor computer system.

128. (Currently Amended) The media of claim 127, further comprising information that packages the content for the distributor computer system if the response from the at least one distributor computer system indicates that the distributor computer system wants to distribute the content.

129. (Original) The media of claim 99, further comprising information that packages the content.

130. (Currently Amended) The media of claim 129, wherein the information that packages the content comprises information that sends the content to a distributor computer system.

131. (Original) The media of claim 129, wherein the information that packages the content comprises information that stores the content in at least one of a storage and a distribution media.

132. (Currently Amended) The media of claim 129, wherein the information that packages the content comprises information that encrypts the content to a ~~the~~ distributor computer system.

133. (Original) The media of claim 129, wherein the information that packages the content comprises information that sends the content to a content repository.

134. (Original) The media of claim 99, further comprising information that registers the content.

135. (Original) The media of claim 134, wherein the information that registers the content comprises information that forwards at least one of metadata, a record of published content, a content identifier, the rights specification and marketing information to a registrar.



136. (Currently Amended) The media of claim 99, further comprising information that registers the transaction of ~~supplying~~ generating.

137. (Original) The media of claim 134, wherein the information that registers the transaction comprises information that stores the transaction information in a transaction database.

138. (Currently Amended) The media of claim 99, wherein the information that ~~supplies~~ generates comprises:

information that prepares a notice that includes the metadata and rights specification;  
and

information that sends the notice to the distributor computer system.

139. (Currently Amended) The media of claim 99, further comprising information that uses at least one distributor business rule to determine whether the distributor computer system wants to distribute the selected content and wherein the information that ~~supplies~~ generates comprises information that bases the ~~supplying~~ generating upon the determination.

140. (Currently Amended) The media of claim 99, further comprising information that receives a response from the distributor computer system and wherein the information that ~~supplies~~ generates comprises information that bases the ~~supply~~ generation upon the response.

141. (Currently Amended) The media of claim 99, further comprising information that updates a distributor computer system catalog based upon the metadata and rights specification.

142. (Original) The media of claim 99, further comprising information that modifies one of the metadata and rights specification based upon a distributor business rule.

143. (New) A method for automatically publishing content, comprising:

- identifying content and metadata for the content through a user computer system, the metadata being based on a user profile and including a content identifier;
- associating a usage rights template and a publishing profile with the content, the publishing profile including a publisher identifier;
- storing the content to at least one of an identified content repository and media defined by the publishing profile.
- validating and registering the content, the metadata, a usage rights specification defined by the usage rights template and the publishing profile by a registrar computer system;
- notifying distributor computer systems of the newly available content, the publisher identifier and the content identifier;
- in response to a request indicating the content identifier and the publishing identifier, transmitting the metadata and the usage rights specification to a distributor computer system;
- and
- automatically generating an item in the catalog of the distributor computer system based on the metadata and the usage rights specification to thereby make the content available for selection by consumers.

144. (New) A method as recited in claim 143, wherein the metadata further includes at least one of a title of the content, the creator of the content, a publisher of the content, the publication date, a Digital Object Identification (DOI), the Library of Congress Control Number (LCCN), a description of the content, and an image associated with the content.

145. (New) A method as recited in claim 143, wherein the rights specification includes information regarding the specific rights granted to the content if a given set of conditions is satisfied.

146. (New) A method as recited in claim 143, wherein said step of automatically generating an item comprises performing a sequence of actions specified by the publishing profile.